

Rio Linda / Elverta Community Water District 2005 Urban Water Management Plan

Introduction

The purpose of this introduction is to inform the reader of:

- The reasons for preparing the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)
- The Water Code exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for this plan, and
- The regional institutional setting that coordinates water resources issues with the District

Reason for Preparing the Urban Water Management Plan

California Water Code Section 10620 states that “every urban water supplier shall prepare and adopt an urban water management plan”. Section 10617 states that “Urban Water Supplier” means a supplier, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually”. Section 10621 states that “each urban water supplier shall update its plan at least once every five years on or before December 31, in years ending in five and zero.” Section 10620 also states that “an urban water supplier may satisfy the requirements of this part by participation in area wide, regional, watershed, or basin wide urban water management planning where those plans will reduce preparation costs and contribute to the achievement of conservation and efficient water use.” The Water Code stipulates the elements of the urban water management plan and the need to coordinate the development of the plan with other water suppliers and appropriate agencies in the area.

With approximately 4,300 customers and delivering approximately 3,400 acre feet of water annually, Rio Linda /Elverta Community Water District (RLECWD) meets the Water Code criteria requiring preparation of this 2005 Urban Water Management Plan.

By submitting this plan to the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR), RLECWD meets one of the eligibility criteria for State funding. Water Code Section 10656 states that an urban water supplier that does not prepare, adopt and submit its urban water management plan to the department in accordance with this part, is ineligible to receive funding or receive drought assistance from the state until the urban water management plan is submitted pursuant to this article.

California Environmental Quality Act

Water Code Section 10652 states that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to the preparation and adoption of plans pursuant to this part or to the implementation of actions taken pursuant to Section 10632 (water shortage contingency analysis).

Contributions of Regional Affiliations Towards RLECWD’s 2005 UWMP

RLECWD participates with several organizations that contribute to regional planning efforts that are referred to in the chapters of the 2005 UWMP. Water resource planning is complicated and involves many activities, resources and stakeholders. This introduction

provides a brief overview of some of these organizations. For more detailed information about these organizations, visit the internet website locations provided with the list of abbreviations.

To meet future water supply needs and address concerns of the multi-county Sacramento Region, RLECWD has participated in the following regional efforts which contribute to the goals and objectives of the UWMP requirements.

- **Water Forum Agreement** – The Water Forum Agreement was developed by a diverse group of business and agricultural leaders, citizens groups, environmentalists, water managers, and local governments in the Sacramento Region that have joined together to fulfill two co-equal objectives:
 - Provide a reliable and safe water supply for the region's economic health and planned development to the year 2030; and
 - Preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the Lower American River.

The Water Forum Agreement provides seven major elements which guide water resources management and are parallel to the CDWR expectations of the UWMP.

1. Increased surface water diversions of the Lower American River
2. Actions to meet customer needs while reducing diversion impacts during dry years
3. An improved pattern of fish flow releases from Folsom Reservoir
4. Lower American river habitat management
5. Water Conservation
6. Groundwater management
7. Water Forum Successor Effort

More details regarding the RLECWD interactions with the Water Forum agreement will be provided in the appropriate chapters of this plan.

- **Regional Water Authority** – The Regional Water Authority (RWA) is a joint powers authority that serves and represents the interests of 22 water providers in the greater Sacramento, Placer, Yolo and El Dorado County region. The Authority's primary mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources within the region. The benefits to RLECWD from participation in RWA include:
 - A water efficiency program to help implement best management practices
 - Development and implementation of a regional water master plan including the preparation of an Integrated Water Resources Management Plan
 - Regional coordination on water quality and water resources issues
 - Grant funding and joint facility development opportunities

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- Sacramento Groundwater Authority is a joint powers authority created in 1998 to collectively manage the Sacramento region's North Area Groundwater Basin that includes the RLECWD service area. RLECWD benefits from SGA include:
 - Groundwater Management Planning
 - Development of a Groundwater data management system.
 - Groundwater monitoring programs
 - Coordination on regional groundwater issues

In addition to these regional efforts to maximize resources and minimize the need to import water, RLECWD has developed its own plans for meeting the needs and safeguarding the water supply of current and future customers.

Agency Coordination

Rio Linda/ Elverta Community Water District (RLECWD) has coordinated the preparation of this 2005 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) with other water suppliers, government agencies, and the public within and adjacent to the RLECWD service area. Table 1 summarizes the agencies that were contacted and that coordinated during the development of this UWMP.

Table 1 Coordination with Appropriate Agencies

Agency Name	Participated in UWMP Development	Commented on Draft	Attended Public Meetings	Contacted for Assistance	Received Copy of Draft	Sent Notice of Intention to Adopt	Not Involved/ No Information
Regional Water Authority				X	X	X	
Water Forum Successor Effort				X	X	X	
Sacramento Suburban Water District				X	X	X	
Placer County Water Agency				X	X	X	
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District				X	X	X	
Sacramento Area Council of Governments				X	X	X	
County of Sacramento				X	X	X	
Sacramento Groundwater Authority				X	X	X	
City of Roseville		X		X	X	X	

Note that the Table 1 includes the County of Sacramento which includes the RLECWD service area. No cities lie within the RLECWD service area.

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RLECWD held a public workshop describing the UWMP on November 14, 2005. Notice of the workshop was posted to the RLECWD website and published in the Rio Linda- Elverta News on November 10. Notice of public hearing on Final UWMP was published in the Rio Linda- Elverta News on December 1st and 8th, 2005. A copy of the draft 2005 UWMP was made available for public review at the RLECWD business office during normal business hours. The draft UWMP was also posted on the RLECWD website (www.rlecwd.com). Copies of the draft UWMP were sent to water suppliers and other agencies in the region as indicated in Table 1.

Responses and comments to the draft UWMP are summarized in Appendix F.

Review of 2000 Urban Water Management Plan

Comparing RELECWD with the 2000 Urban Water Management Plan indicates that RLECWD has followed the 2000 UWMP. Implementation of demand management measures have exceeded expectations in the plan in large part due to RLECWD participation in the RWA Water Efficiency Program. No recycled water use was anticipated in 2000 and none has been made available. As planned, RLECWD has continued to pump groundwater to supply its slowly growing demand. The districts actions are consistent with the Water Forum Agreement and the Sacramento Groundwater Authority Water Management Plan.

This 2005 UWMP was prepared by Charlie Pike and Associates, water resources consultant.